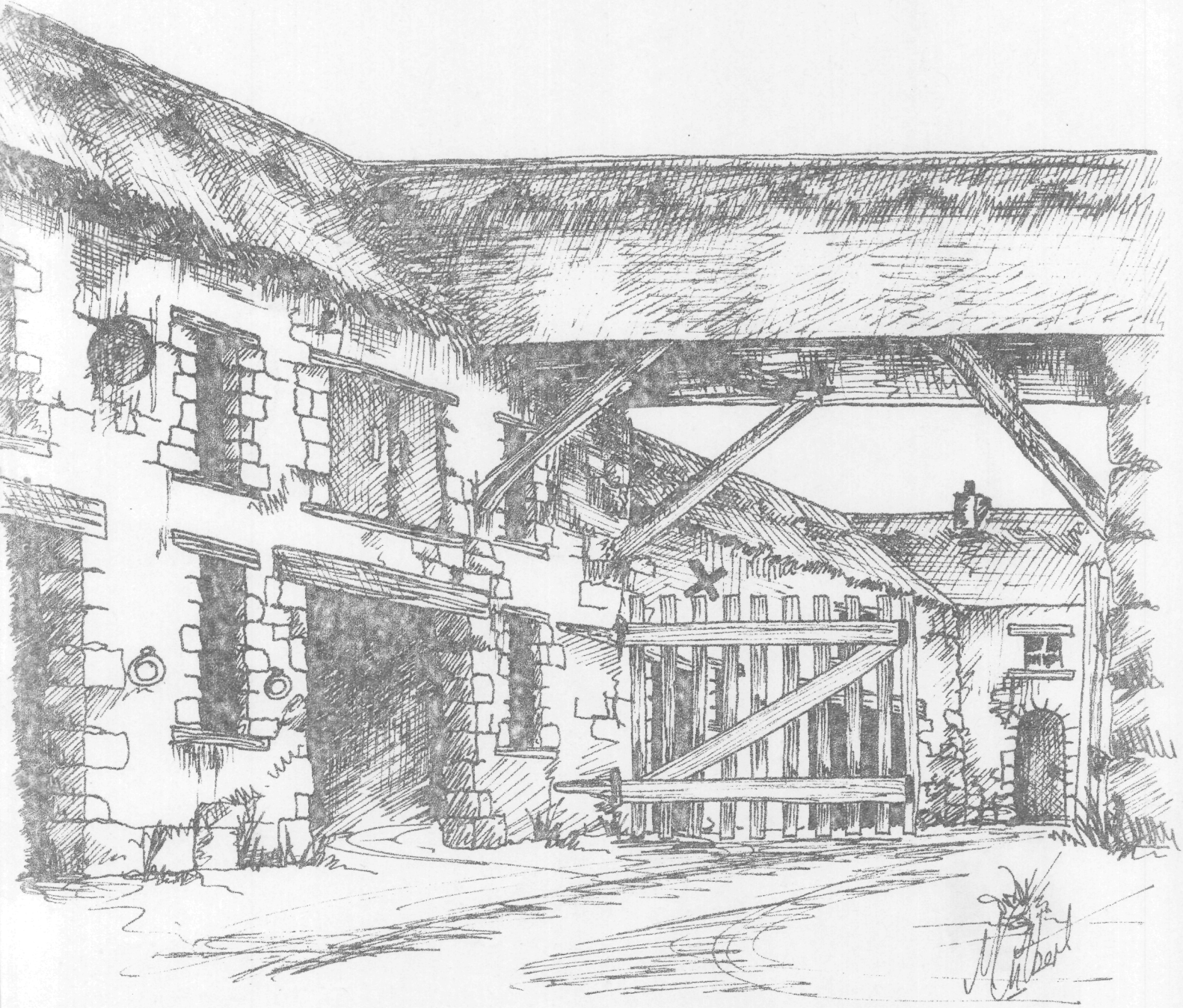
Sept. 80

DEDDINGTON NEWS



DEDDINGTON NEWS: Vol. 5 No. 1 September 1980

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DEDDINGTON NEWS is a community magazine produced by and for Deddington people. We are always glad to receive letters and articles for inclusion in the News. Extra copies are on sale at the Post Office, price 10p.

Advertisement Rates: £5 per full page £3 per half page
£1.50 per quarter page 75p per eighth page
Personal ads 1p per word

Our September cover is Margaret Gilbert's reconstruction of how the courtyard of the King's Arms used to look.

One of the oldest coaching inns in Deddington, The Kings Arms was at one time very large and virtually self-sufficient. In addition to its numerous stables, hay lofts and harness rooms, it had its own dairy, bakehouse, well, piggery, and four cottages in the two courtyards. Two cottages and several outbuildings have unfortunately collapsed due to neglect, but the other two cottages have been combined to form the now Kings Arms Cottage in Earls Lane. This can boast to have been the last house in Deddington to have borne a thatched roof. A covered way once existed to link the two couryards and would also have given access to the Inn gardens which extended from the other side of Earls Lane to the back of what is now Benfields Garage.

Originating in the 16th century, the Kings Arms has been added to, and subtracted from, a great deal over the years, but it still retains much of its old world charm with its wealth of exposed beams and stonework.

Margaret Gilbert

Editorial: I have decided to step down from the editor's hot-seat on the News in favour of giving more of my attention to the diverse interests of my family. Jane Rose is taking over the position and I wish her well with it and not too many traumas. Jill Highway is in turn taking over Jane's advertising role. Jill is a new name and face on the News production team, and I welcome her, along with Mary Tierney who will be helping Liz Mound with the typing, and June Keller who is taking over the duplicating service from me. (If you need any duplicating done, please contact June on 38919). You will notice I'm sure that we have a new reporter covering Psrish Council meetings, but could do with someone to cover alternate meetings. If anyone is interested, would you please contact Jane.

I am delighted to see so much new blood on the production team because it brings in fresh ideas. I have thoroughly enjoyed being involved with the News since it first started and I have personally gained a lot of experience from it. In comparison to most other local community newspapers, Deddington has a large team, but it ensures a wide range of ideas and interests and makes it a truly community communication. I hppe as many as possible of you will come to our coffee morning on the 18th September and provide goodies that can be sold.

My thanks to everyone who has helped towards making the News a success and I wish good luck to everyone involved in the future right through from writers of copy to staplers and Guides delivering.

COPY DATE FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE 26th SEPTEMBER

(Jane lives at Stone Cottage, New Street, next door to the Crown and Tuns).

Deddington News Fund-Raising

Coffee Morning

and

Bring and Buy

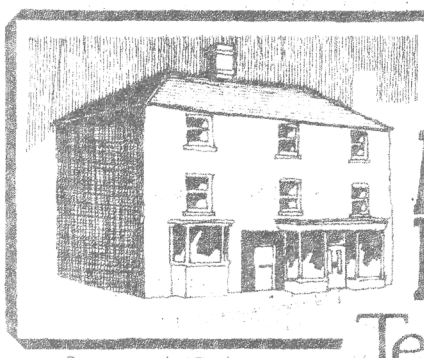
Produce Only

RAFFLE

on

Thursday 18th September at 10.30 am.

at Stile House, New Street.



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Thank you for your support.

Scouts/Guides/Rangers

Jumble Sale

2 pm
Saturday
20th September

Windmill School
Scout Hut.

WHAT'S ON

Sept.	7	Congregational Harvest Festival 3.0 p.m.
	8	Hook Norton Adult Education Enrolment 7 - 8.30 p.m.
	9	First Guides/Rangers meeting
	13	Congregational Service 7.0 p.m.
	17	Youth Group meeting 7 - 9.0 p.m. Wesleyan School Room
	17	Warriner PTA AGM
	18	eddington News Coffee Morning 10.30 a.m.
	20	Scouts, Guides and Rangers Jumble Sale 2.0 p.m. Windmill Scout Hut
	23	irst Brownie meeting
	24	7.15 p.m. Parish Council Meeting at the Town Hall
	25	Mothers Union AGM 3.0 p.m. Holly Tree Club
	26	Deddin ton News Copy date
	27	Guides District competition at Horley
	27	Deanery Hymn Festival - Deddington Church 6.0 p.m.
	27	Congregational Cuurch Service .0 p.m.
	28	Congregational Church Service 6.0 p.m.
Oct.	1	Deddington Ladies Soc al evening 8.0 p.m. Holly Tree Club
	5	Harvest Festival 10.30 a.m. Parish Church
	12	Harvest Supper 7.30 p.m. Deddington School

MOTHERS' UNION

We had a lovely day on Saturday July 5, when six families, one set of grandparents and a dog spent the day in Hazelborough Forest, near Silverstone. We started with a walk of almost two miles, not bad if you're only two years old (or as old as 32 come to that!). Then after a picnic lunch we spent the afternoon in the adventure playground and playing "rounders". It was prizes all round at the end of a fine day of fun and games, relaxation or working off energy, and in some cases a day for catching measles. But for all that, most mums and dads still had enough strength for the PTA Barn Dance in the evening.

On Thursday 28th August, Mrs. Jean Welford, Deanery President, invited each branch in the Deanery to join in a fund-raising garden party at Clifton to raise money for the overseas fund. Deddington Branch ran the refreshment stall, and at the end of a lovely afternoon the grand total raised was over £100. Many thanks to all local folk who came and helped support this worthy cause. During the afternoon the children were allowed to use the swimming-pool, something all the youngsters greatly enjoyed - a big thank-you from them all.

Our next event is a ploughman's lunch and talk to be held on September 2nd, and we look forward to seeing all members and anyone else at all interested in our group at the A.G.M. on Thursdsy 25th September at 8 p.m. Venue probably the Holly Tree Club. On Saturday 27th September we shall be providing teas at the Deanery Hymn Festival in Church - all members help appreciated.

Maggie Rampley

DEDDINGTON LADIES

For our July meeting Mrs Hindley of Market Square gave us a very interesting talk on woollen garments, scotch plaids and jewellery. She also brought items along for us to see. She owns a shop in Woodstock and one in London. We thank Mrs. Hindley for such an interesting time.

On August 6th we had our Garden Fete. The proceeds will go to the "Guide Dogs for the Blind". Mr. Hammersley from Bodicote Chase came along with "William" who was a great favourite with the children. We also thank Mrs. Hammersley for transporting them both and joining us.

Our next meeting is on 2nd September, when one of the servicemen from Upper Hyyford will speak to us on "Life in the Forces".

On October 1st we are having a social evening. Everyone is welcomed to any of our meetings on the first Wednesday of the month at the Holly Tree Club at 8 p.m.

Daphne Harper

DEDDINFTON TOWN F.C.

Mr. W. Compton: By now you will all know that Bill Compton died recently. Bill was a loyal member of our club and was Chairman for 20 years until ill health forced him to retire. He also held the honoured position of life vice-President. Bill's service to the club was recorded in the AGM minutes, by wearing black armbands on the first game of the season, and by observing a minute's silence at both AGM and our first game.

1980 - 81 season: The season is now under way with Val Smith now managing our first team and Cliff Harper managing our reserves. Our first game of the season was a Cavalcade of Sport Cup, resulting in us going out of this cup to Bodicote Sports by 4 - 1. Our first league game was the same result going to Unicorn Sport and Social by 5 - 1.

Our congratulations go to Sandra Gaw and John Keys on their marriage in July, and to Kay Timms and Billy Garrett on their marriage on September 6th. Also our congratulations go to "Smokey" and wife for producing perhaps another centre forward in Gary, their first child. Further congratulations to Glen Monaghan and Marion on the birth of identical twin girls.

R. Hayward, Chairman

SCOUTS

After a welcome break of several weeks, Scouts will be resuming on September 5th. We shall still be meeting in the Windmill School, as work commitments among the Scouters has prevented us starting any work on our 'new' Scout Hut (the old Rifle Range). We shall be forming a committee to organise the renovation of the hut, grants etc. and hope that friends and parents will be able to help with this job.

May I thank those parents who were able to give us their time to help us at the Banbury Carnival and Rugby Club Fete where, selling lottery tickets for Teddy Bears, we raised nearly £200. This money will be put towards the hut renovation fund.

We have now been running our minibus for about six months. Although it plods on, the van needs some money spent on it to stop it falling apart (as well as finding money for tax and insurance), and to this end we are holding a Jumble Sale in conjunction with the Guides and Rangers, on September 20th at the Windmill School. All proceeds will go to the van fund. Your support will be welcomed. If you have any jumble - especially books, toys and bric-a-brac, please ring me on 38198 and I will arrange collection.

Robin Stammers

NOTES ON P.C. MEETING HELD ON 23RD JULY 1980

Present: D. Ward (Chairman), K. Garrett, A. Mackenzie, R. Hayward, M. Spencer, R. Garvey, R. Gardner, N. Drake, M. Robinson, M. O'Neill, J. Cheeseman.
Apologies: R. Stevens and D. Welford.

A report from Mr. Scott was read out stating that all the trees planted in the Autumn were doing well and only one tree was slightly damaged. A few people would, however, be required to take on future responsibility for the trees.

Castle Grounds: A meeting had taken place between Councillors and representatives from Ancient Monuments Dept. It seems unlikely that the Dept. of the Environment would approve any project which disturbed the soil of the "Outer Bailey" or any part of the earthworks. Any such Planning Application would be treated as a "Listed Building Consent Application" and referred to the D.O.E.

An estimate of £120 - £150 was received from Mr. Bradley to fell and cut up the tree offered by Mike O'Neill. This price did not cover transportation and construction of the seats. Merely felling the tree would be £45 and it was agreed to ask Mr. Bradley to fell the tree and Mike O'Neill offered to deal with transportation.

Windmill Site: O.C.C. had replied that the request to proceed with the lease of the playing fields only was not possible. Unless the P.C. could decide by 30th September the whole property would be placed on the open market. It now seems that Planning Permission will not be granted for the land fronting Hempton Road prior to the P.C.C. making a decision on a community centre and in view of this, Mr. Bond was instructed to write and ask for the conditions regarding noise to be removed as quickly as possible.

High St./New St. Lighting: The Chairman reported on a meeting held recently which was attended by County Council Officers and most Councillors, Briefly, the Dept. of Transport are the Lighting Authority for the trunk road. The P.C. were being consulted because O.C.C. did not wish to put forward a scheme which the P.C.C would object to. They were still proposing a scheme which would use 8m. column mounted lights with High Pressure Sodium Units. Councillors again discussed this scheme and Mary Robinson suggested improving the Footpath lighting as a holding measure until a better scheme could be found, but was defeated. Norman Drake proposed that the P.C.C. accept the O.C.C. Scheme but, if the P.C.C. could come up with an alternative that met O.C.C. standards then they would be bound to accept that scheme irrespective of cost. This was passed and a proposal by Monty Spencer that the P.C.C. accept the proposed O.C.C. scheme was defeated. Mrry Robinson's suggestion for High Pressure Sodium lights instead of Low Pressure was also passed, but her suggestion that the P.C.C. call a public meeting in order to explain the proposed scheme to the village had no seconder.

Jane Rose

DEDDINGTON BOWLS CLUB

June 26th at Bunker Hill drew with Blue Circle. July 5th at Charlbury, lost to Charlbury. July 8th at Banbury, lost to Banbury Central. July 12th at Heyford, lost to Heyford. July 17th at Deddington, beat Chipping Norton. July 19th at Shipston beat Shipston Engineers. July 29th at Banbury, lost to Banbury Borough (match abandoned because of rain, with the Borough leading by 30 shots to 22). August 2nd, at Deddington, beat Middle Barton. August 12th, at Deddington, beat Banbury Central. August 16th at Adderbury, lost to Adderbury. August 20th at Deddington, beat Chandos Park (Buckingham). August 21st at Oxford, lost to Oxford City and County. August 23rd at Deddington, tied with Bloxham. August 25th at Heyford, lost to Heyford (Cup Match).

Frank Crofts

D E D D I N G T O N C O N G R E G A T I O N A L C H U R C H

CENTENARY CELEBRATION SERVICES
(1880 - 1980)

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

SUNDAY 7th SEPTEMBER at 3.00 p.m.

Speaker: Mr. Stephen English

Items by Sunday School Scholars

+ + + + + + +

THE BIRMINGHAM MALE VOICE PRAISE CHOIR

SATURDAY 13th SEPTEMBER at 7.00 p.m.

+ + + + + + +

SPECIAL WEEK-END CELEBRATION SERVICES

Christian Harmony Singers (of Witney)

SATURDAY 27th SEPTEMBER at 7.00 p.m.

Speaker: Rev. John Peck

+ + + + + + +

SUNDAY 28th SEPTEMBER

6.00 p.m.

Service conducted by REV. JOHN PECK

(Rev. Peck lived in Deddington for some years doing Evangelistic Work in the village and surrounding districts.)

He will be happy to meet old friends

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ADULT EDUCATION

Sometimes we lose sight of the fact that the arts were created for us all to enjoy, although the demands of living intervene and time for relaxation is often in short supply and moments of leisure become precious.

However, time spent on the arts is never wasted and the learning, practicing and appreciation of a skill can give us enormous enjoyment and satisfaction. As a professional teacher and artist I would like to provide the opportunity for this involvement. As I believe that the basis of good painting is good drawing, I am hoping to start a 10-week foundation course in drawing, and also a separate 10-week foundation course in design. These can be followed up later with painting or needlecraft courses.

The classes will be informal and instructional and designed to keep the costs of materials to a minimum. The courses will be for 10 weekly classes of 2 hours duration during the day, starting in September. The time is yet to be arranged. If you are interested and would like further information, please contact me at home as soon as possible.

Gladys Hammonds
57 St. Johns Way, Hempton.
Telephone Deddington 38432

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Hook Norton Evening Centre re-opens on Monday September 15th. Enrolments take place on Monday September 8th from 7 to 8.30 p.m. at the school. Classes to be held are as follows:

	Afternnon	Evening
MONDAY	Embroidery	Golf; Dressmaking; Crocket; 20th Century Novelists.
TUESDAY	[illegible]	Ladies Keep Fit; Puppetmaking; Spinning
WEDNESDAY	Cake Icing & Cookery	Speaking in Public: Painting: Writers' Circle.
THURSDAY	Pewterwork	Yoga; Upholstery: French Conversation.

Enquiries to Mr. Alan Sibson on Hook Norton 737737.

HOLLYTREE CLUB

Our last summer outing of the year was spent on a visit to Cotswold Wild Life Park. Mr. Raymond West provided the coach and drove us there - much appreciated by us all. It's a lovely place and well worth a visit; there is so much to see, with all the animals, so well cared for. The grounds were a joy with their profusion of plants and flowers. I was attracted by the brass rubbing room, with its tall windows, with their plush velvet curtains and arched canopies. Tea was good at a reasonable price and there were several kiosks in the grounds. As we left a small duck was cleaning itself in a large puddle inside the gates.

We stopped at a wayside inn on our way home. It was great to be told by our kind driver not to choke ourselves, as time did not matter. It made a good finish to a very interesting, happy day. Thanks again Mr. Raymond West, from the Senior Citizens of Hollytree Club.

Florence Anderson

NATURE NOTES

....o'er the grass
Behold the spangled crowds of butterflies
Flutter from flower to flower, ...

John Clare.

Butterflies in this part of Oxfordshire seem to be as numerous as ever in spite of reports to the contrary in some parts of the country. I found the small blue in some numbers fluttering around red clover and field scabious at the end of August. This little butterfly, the smallest of the blues, flies very low and always stays near to its birthplace, wandering very little. The caterpillars only feed on kidney vetch, so to find the butterfly one has first to find the kidney vetch.

A willow warbler has been in our garden trees and bushes for several days. It seemed very friendly when I was picking sweet peas and sat in the damson tree just above my head and sang its beautiful song of descending notes, and my movements did not frighten it away. Later it was in the crabapple tree outside the kitchen window, still appearing to take no notice of us watching it. By coincidence the Skemps at Clifton have had a similar experience with a willow warbler in their garden. Their bird also shows no fear when approached. Earlier this year our orchard robin was killed and I am a little surprised that all through the Summer no other robin appears to have taken up the orchard territory left vacant from the Spring onwards. Perhaps soon this will be rectified. I hope so.

Pat Hannah

DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

Another school year has just flown by and a new year begins. To those who go on to the Warriner School we say farewell, and to those who start here in Deddington School we say welcome.

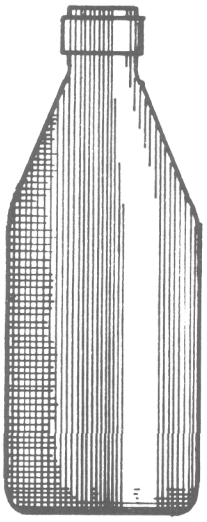
As retiring Chairman of the PTA I can reflect upon an active year - two barn dances, three evening meetings at the school, the market stall, the fete and finally the Annual General Meeting on September 18th at 7.45 p.m. May I remind you that the AGM is the occasion when you can express your views and concerns on PTA matters. Historically it is a poorly attended meeting and last year we were hard pressed to form a committee. If the PTA is to survive and be effective, we must have a strong committee and this must be elected from those who attend the AGM. In an effort to make the AGM less formal we are including a cheese and wine party, (plus beer and soft drinks) so please come along and give us your support.

At least we have the caravan for our changing rooms by the pool. We are very fortunate that this came as a gift. Although the donors wish to remain ananymous, we are most grateful and send you our thanks via the Deddington News. The cash originally allocated for the purchase of a caravan will now be spent in converting our acquisition and bringing it up to standard for use as changing rooms and storage area.

Finally, my thanks to Mr. Duxbury and all his staff for their willing and generous help over the past twelve months. My thanks also to the committee and all who have helped during the past year. It has been truly a team effort and I wish the next committee every success in their endeavours.

Mike Langstaff - Chairman

Fairview Dairies



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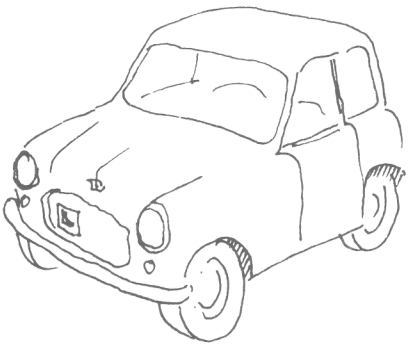

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"A WORM'S EYE VIEW OF PARISH COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS"

August's Deddington P.C. meeting seemed to be chiefly on the subject of grass. No, not the smoking variety but the growing under foot stuff. Mind you, a few puffs of the illicit weed might well liven up proceedings of this worthy body. However, I digress. What started it all was a letter from the County Council enquiring if the Parish Council wanted to enter into a contract to have the Windmill site cut. As Monty Spencer shrewdly pointed out Deddington did not own the land yet so we could hardly spend money on cutting somebody else's grass. Mary Robinson, even more shrewdly, observed that the growing season was coming to an end so why bother anyway. At this point the Chairman concluded that they had better sit on it, which promptly conjured up pictures of our Council sitting cross-legged in a circle in the middle of the Windmill site for their next meeting.

We then moved on to trees and offers from various bodies to help with more tree planting, but nobody seemed too keen. Norman Drake wanted to see if last season's plantings outgrew the grass.

Back to grass again with problems at the Castle Grounds with horses and motor-bikes chewing it up in their respective fashion. Much discussion about what type of notice to erect to warn off offenders. Jill Cheeseman remarked that she found the bye-laws difficult enough to read so there was no way your average 17 year old ton-up kid was going to get the message. However there's going to be a separate committee meeting about it. Watch this space!

On to the burial ground and more grass. According to Rodney Hayward the recent mowing looked as if it had been done by an erratic and not too hungry family of rabbits. The contractors were to be asked to tidy it up.

Dotted between these matters were one or two rogue items like street lights left burning, the new lighting scheme and yet again the Windmill site; all of which stood out like thistles on a lawn but here allusions to grass growing under people's feet might give the right impression, so suffice to report that there is to be a meeting about the Windmill site between all interested parties, and no doubt a few disinterested ones, on September 15th. We await the outcome with bated breath.

"Rover"

DEDDINGTON RANGER GUIDES

Most of the Rangers went to Guide Camp at Sarden Hall and whilst we were there Judith Humphreys was presented with her Queen's Guide Badge and Ruth Woods was given a certificate to say that she had reached Queen's Guide Standard. These awards were presented by Mrs. Bouverie. We were joined by Mrs. Grey, Judith's parents and Miss Hacon, who was Ruth's Guider. Unfortunately it had to be inside the Mill due to the torrential downpour, but we celebrated in true guide fashion with cocoa and a magnificent cake in the shape of the Queen's Guide Badge, made by Carol Langstaff. We rounded off the evening with campfire singing.

Ruth Woods has done her basic camp training at Clifton Hampden, near Abingdon along with other Rangers. Liz Gregory went to the County Camp at Shirburn and has now been to Switzerland with her old Guide District. Several Rangers will be joining the venture Scouts at "Ticonderoga" an adventure camp at Youlbury from 5th - 7ty September. Our first meeting will be on 9th September.

Jackie Stammers

GLADYS HAMMONDS

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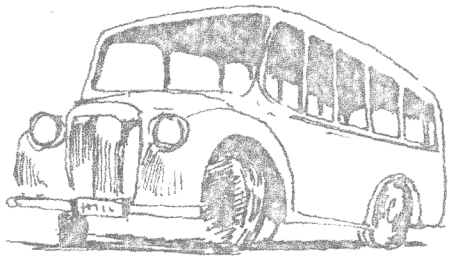

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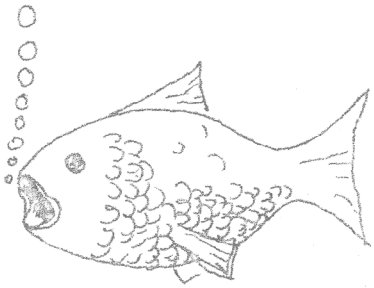
ROSALIND & DUDLEY OSBORN



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Grimsby 883861.

Our July meeting took place at the Holly Tree Club on the 8th. During the business part our President, Mrs. Riley, gave her report on the AGM at the Albert Hlll, which was the culmination of a year's activities. It is a pity that this event seems to have been ignored by the newspapers and television. In previous years we were able to read reports, and the resolutions which are discussed each year were given some publicity. This year there was silence. Nonetheless the W.I. movement is flourishing and there are more local groups than ever before. One of the resolutions passed concerned the problem of alcoholism in the young, and it is interesting to know that we are not alone in our concern: at the same time a medical conference came out with the suggestion that the price of alcohol should be raised so dramatically that it wolld put it out of reach of the young.

The publicity we did get was about the "jam fuss", and it was finally decided that we should be allowed to carry on making and selling preserves as before.

After the business meeting we were able to welcome Mrs. Margaret White, a charming and expert flower arranger. Of all the demonstrations and lectures flower arranging is always the most appealing. Each demonstrater has something new and lovely to offer. We were not disappointed, and there was much good-natured envy for those members who won the finished arrangements in the raffle. Appropriately the competition of the month was for the best specimen rose, and in spite of the awful weather, and the state of the gardens, members brought some beautiful roses. This competition is judged by members putting coins in front of the rose of their choice. The money goes to charity. The winners of the competition were: Mrs. Powell, Mrs. Gregory and Mrs. Wa er.

On Saturday, July 26th, we had our summer stall in the Market Place. As usual there were plenty of cakes and produce and no lack of customers. About £80 was made and the money is for charity.

We also had a Sunday outing to Hidcote. Members and their husbands went on a coach, and although the weather was pretty uncertain, we were able to wander around the lovely gardens and have tea before it actually began to rain hard. OUr thanks to Mrs. Powell who always takes so much time and trouble to arrange these outings. There is no meeting in August so our next one will be on September 9th, when Mr. John Rhodes will give a talk on Oxfordshire crafts such as glove making.

W.I. Recipe of the Month - Orange Chicken

You need (for 6)

1 jointed chicken
1 large chopped onion
tarragon or mixed herbs.
1 can concentrated orange juice
1 chicken cube dissolved in ½ pint water
(herbs are always nicer fresh - try a mixture from the garden, like sage, mint, verbena, parsley tied in a bunch)
6 ozs soured cream or plain yoghurt

Method: Glaze the onion and brown the chicken pieces in a little oil, put in casserole dish and add all other ingredients except the cream. Cook in covered dish at 300°F for an hour until the chicken is tender, but not falling to pieces. Then thicken the sauce with a tablespoon of cornflour dissolved in a little cold water, add cream or yoghurt, flavour with salt and pepper. This dish can be prepared for a supper party and reheats beautifully. Serve with rice.

Marianne Elsley

BROWNIE NEWS

We finished our last meeting of the summer term with a swim in Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson's pool which was a happy ending to a busy summer's activities. We are very grateful to them for allowing us to come, and for providing us with drinks and biscuits afterwards.

Brownies meetings will start again on Tuesday 23rd September, usual time and place. I am sorry that we are starting again 1 ter than usual, but I cannot help it this year. I hope that our waiting list will ease over the next term or two; in the meantime if anybody wants to be a Brownie, please could Carol Nicholls or I have her name, address and age for our list.

Vivien Pleydell-Bouverie

CHURCH NEWS

Hatches, matches and despatches

Birth, marriage, death. Each of these events is marked by a special church service, baptism, wedding ceremony and funeral service. It matters more that we should use these services than that we should understand them. But the better we understand, the more we shall value them.

First birth, marked by Holy Baptism. (Baptism and Christening are two words which mean exactly the same). There are about six baptisms a year in Deddington church, fewer than in the past, but still quite a number. Why do parents want their children baptised? Chiefly because they were themselves baptised once; partly because the grandmother of the baby wants it; partly because they want to acknowledge that their child is no less than a child of God; partly because they want their child to belong to the Church. There are perhaps as many reasons as there are people.

I was once summoned to a Maternity Hospital at about 11.00 p.m. The Matron said there was a new born baby who was very weak. She had told the mother that if she wanted the baby baptised, it should be done straight away. The mother agreed and chose a name. I baptised the baby, who rapidly grew stronger. The next day I went back to the hospital. The Matron said, in a matter of fact way, "If there is any doubt about a baby surviving, I always ask for baptism. It can't do any harm".

It sounds like superstition. But hospital matrons are not notorious for being easily taken in. They use their eyes rather than the text books. If a baby (or anyone else) is likely to die, then anyone can baptise him or her. Hospital nurses should know this. All you need is water. You pour a little over the child's head, with the words, "John (or Jane or whatever name the parents want, if they can be found in time) I baptise you, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen". That is all there is to it. But of course a priest should be called in, if possible. It is one of his special privileges (and delights) to baptise anyone of any age.

It would be more logical to baptise only those who themselves choose this. The Baptists do this. But the fonts in our parish churches, which are suitable primarily for infants, have stood there is some cases for a thousand years. There is a long and strong tradition in favour of infant baptism. There is more to it than this. But if you have an unbaptised baby, and you are not sure about baptism, come and talk to me about it. As the matron said, "It can't do any harm".

Richard Hannah

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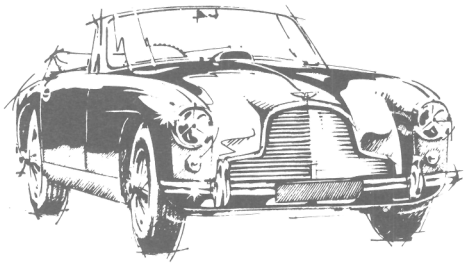

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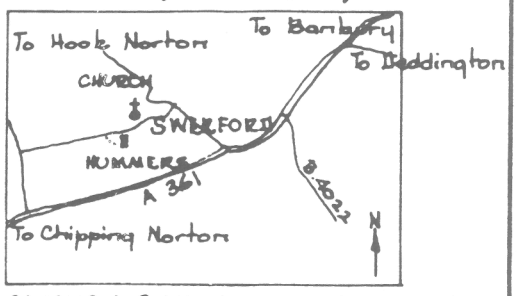

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CORRESPONDENCE

On behalf of all the residents of Deddington and district, I would like to record my appreciation for the great job being done in the upkeep of Deddington churchyard and cemetery.

The persons responsible, Captain Ted Johnson and Mr. Eric Dodwell, contribute a great deal of hard work in their own free time. Many thanks to them from all of us.

Arthur Lewis, 1 The Bungalow, Chapman's Lane

DEDDINGTON GUIDES

Camp of course - the event of the year - heads our news report. We all returned slightly rusty, worn out but happy! The weather is always the main topic of interest at camp - and all I can say is it did improve. On the second night we had one tent awash but the problems were soon sorted out - it added to the excitement anyway!

The weather and the state of health of most of the campers caused some very amusing and dramatic scenes. Sick parade was more like the sales and the first aider had to fight her way to the front of the queue to dole out a non-stop flow of cough mixture, sore throat lozenges and cough sweets!. We had to send out for more supplies. One night of pouring rain saw scenes resembling those in M.A.S.H. with blanketed bodies being raced across the field from tent to tent. However for all this we only had one camper who had to go home - that was with measles.

In spite of all this activity we managed to fit in other things including patrol cooking, a hike, swimming (in the rain of course), a birthday tea-party, an outing to Chipping Norton when the guides bought their own snack lunch with a set allowance. This proved to be quite a challenge. We also had a day out to Bourton-on-the-Water and Birdland.

One very special event was a Queen's Guide ceremony. Judith Humphreys was presented with her Queen's Guide award by Mrs. Bouverie, Division Commissioner, in the company of the whole camp, sister Rangers and Judith's parents. It was a very happy, lively evening - highlight for the Guides was the beautifully decorated cake made by Carol Langstaff. Warmest congratulations to Judith from all Deddington Guides past and present on this fine achievement.

I know that Jackie Stammers, and Jane Rose the other Guiders at camp would like to thank all the Guides and Rangers for all their hard work and loyalty during our test camp - we will get the results during September. Also many thanks to our own husbands and the dads who helped load and unload, drove or lent vans. Thanks to mums who helped in many ways - sending cakes, drying sleeping bags etc. and to all who came to our parents' evening and made this a very happy occasion.

Five guides were lucky enough to get places at the International camp at Shirburn Castle and had a most enjoyable and interesting camp. This was a great opportunity to meet Guides from all parts of the world and try many new activities.

We will begin this term on 2nd September with a Leaders training and Guide meetings restart on Tuesday 9th September. The postponed district competition will now be held on Saturday 27th September at Horley.

Maggie Rampley

THE WARRINER SCHOOL

The last PTA event was on June 28th, the summer fete, which is now very much history, not news. Nevertheless it is worthy of note for:

(a) being relatively successful financially, realising close on £450 (which was £100 up on 1979)
(b) for the large number of parents attending
(c) for the shortage of produce, cakes, books bric-a-brac to sell; and
(d) for the entertainment provided by the "It's a knockout" competition, involving pupils, parents and staff. Although our Deddington team were last, they were gallant losers, ably captained by Norman Drake. I hope we have one next year. The winners were Bloxham.

At the start of the autumn term our thoughts turn to things like the AGM. PLEASE NOTE - WEDNESDAY 17th SEPTEMBER, and there is one item on that agenda which I would like to discuss - "The purpose of the PTA". Most people know that one of its uses is to raise funds for the school. Indeed some may feel that its activities should be restricted to two only, namely raising money and providing social functions.

As a retiring member of the 1979/80 committee I feel strongly that it has an important third function - that of discussing parents' suggestions and criticisms re school activities. During my two year involvement with the PTA I have been disappointed by the lack of response from parents. Perhaps as the Deddington representative I was misguided into thinking that the telephone would never stop ringing.

Was the reason it didn't ring because:-

(a) all parents are individually making suggestions and criticisms direct to the school? or
(b) there are occasions when a parent is unhappy but would rather not complain?
I very much doubt if the answer is "Yes" to both the above questions, but would rather suggest that apathy is largely the reason for my telephone not ringing.

In the event of my being elected to the PTA for 1980/81 it is my hope that activities such as debates and discussions involving parents, pupils and staff will somewhere be included in the programme for the year. It is encouraging to hear from the Headmaster that there is talk of greater parent involvement in the County. Therefore for now remember Wednesday September 17th the AGM and please try to be there.

I regret the ambiguity in my reporting in the July issue, re the parent complaint concerning the canal trip. The parent was referring to "teaching time" only, which he felt would be better used in other activities in these times of cutbacks. It is not for me to comment, only to report this opinion, in the hope that it may stimulate parents to contact me on this or any other matter relating to school activities.

John Burdon

CORRESPONDENCE

A colleague has drawn my attention to a comment in the Deddington News which seems to imply that the LEA paid for the recent canal trip involving some of our pupils. In fact this trip, like the French exchange mentioned earlier in the same article, was paid for entirely by those who took part in it.

M.S. Ruddock, Headmaster, The Warriner School

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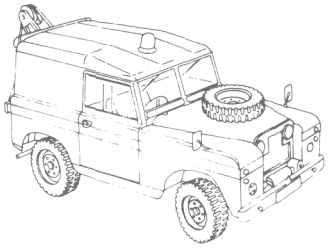

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